



# WASHINGTON TIMES SPORTS

## HOME RUN KING HAS ARGUMENT IN OWN BEHALF

Suspension Likely for Ruth, But Incident Draws Attention to Fans' Cowardice.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

Babe Ruth is likely to be punished severely for entering the grandstand at the Polo Grounds, New York, and seeking to hammer an insulting fan. There are two sides to every question and the ball player has an excellent argument to offer in partial palliation of his offense.

Ban Johnson is expected to suspend the Yankees' home-run hitter for ten days. He may impose a heavy fine on the player. But Ban Johnson will do the game a great good if he will investigate conditions surrounding the incident at the Polo Grounds.

It is admitted that Babe Ruth overstepped the bounds on the playing field when, called out stretching his single, he tossed a handful of dirt at Umpire Hildebrand. He was ejected from the game for that, then and there.

It is admitted that Ruth committed a cardinal offense when he left the playing field and sought to beat up one of his insulters. He is yet to be punished for that.

Nevertheless, Babe Ruth and every other player in the major leagues is entitled to protection from insult and injury on the part of the public. It is all too true for a club owner to say he cannot stop the flood of vilification such as we heard shouted at Ruth yesterday and Wednesday.

Babe Ruth is a young man. He is no better and no worse than any other man.

Babe Ruth, because he can hit home runs, has been raised on a pinnacle extending wellnigh to the skies. If it has turned his head, there is good reason.

Babe Ruth, because he has not been hitting home runs in every game since his return to the New York lineup, has been the target for insults shocking to one not accustomed to them.

In Wednesday's game this flood of

## Ban Expresses Sorrow For Ruth's Wild Deed on Field

CHICAGO, May 26.—"I am sorry to hear that," was the comment of Ban Johnson, American League president, when informed that Ruth had kicked over the traces in yesterday's Yankee-Senators game at the Polo Grounds in New York.

Johnson was unable to say what action he would take in the matter. He will be guided by what Umpires Nallin and Hildebrand have to say in their telegraphic reports of the affair.

Insult rose to its height in the seventh inning when Ruth failed to hit safely, with two out and the bases loaded.

In yesterday's game the chorus of "boos" began with his first appearance at the plate. His sacrifice bunt only added fuel to the fire.

No man purchasing a ticket to a ball game has any inherent right to insult the players with words he would not dare use were he anywhere else. It is the duty of the umpire to call attention of this situation to the club owner. It is the latter's duty to take such measures as will halt the insults.

Lacking such protection by both umpire and magnate, the player may be expected to do something in his own defense, even when that action is distinctly against the rules of the league. His action may not be justified under those rules, but to the average man they are entirely justifiable.

Ruth committed a cardinal offense when he climbed into the stand. Those fans make it possible for him to be the highest-paid ball player in the business. Without those fans there would be no baseball played at all, save as a matter of exercise.

If Ruth were an ancient philosopher, he might sit down, swallow his chagrin at the turn in the tide and wait for better days. But Ruth is a young man, a professional athlete raised in one season to the heights of popular success. He is making more money than dozens of men together. It is but natural for him to be shocked at what has happened since he returned to the New York lineup.

If Ruth knew much of the old Athenian Ecclesia he might ponder on the fate of great generals and statesmen at the hands of the mob. He probably never heard of the Ecclesia. If he did, he might not be a ball player.

He who is lifted to the skies by popular acclaim may be just as easily and even more quickly hurled into the depths by that same public. Ruth is undergoing such experience now.

In 1911 Ty Cobb, suffering from similar insults, rushed into the stand at the Yankees' old Hilltop park and severely chastised a fan. He was fined and suspended for ten days, causing a strike on the part of the entire Detroit club. However, the fine and suspension stuck and the Detroit club was induced to play ball. A rule was then adopted by the American league seeking to prevent a repetition of such an act. Yesterday's affair in New York is the first since 1911, though Harry Courtney attempted to stage such a foolish act at Georgia avenue last fall.

Babe Ruth is known as an easy-going man on the field. He leads no riots. He gives all he has to his team on the field. In 1919 he swung on Umpire Brick Owens and was suspended for five days, but that was the one rough act in his career until yesterday.

It is probable—and quite to be ex-

## GOES INTO GRANDSTAND AFTER FAN WHO RAZZED HIM



"Babe" Ruth, whose inability so far this year to start his home run clouting, has caused him no end of criticism from the Polo Ground spectators.

Yesterday this continual rowdiness from the stands got Babe's "goat" and in the third inning he decided to take matters into his own hands and avenge an insult hurled at him by a cash customer. The incident brought about his banishment from the field.

pected—that adulation may have gone to Ruth's head. It would be surprising if it were not so.

There is a lesson to be learned from yesterday's incident and Ruth is not the only one who should learn it. The magnates, too, should learn the lesson that it is distinctly up to them to protect their players from such insults as we heard poured upon Ruth Wednesday and yesterday at the New York Polo Grounds.

## Baseball Gossip For Fans' Delight

The Griffs have three games here before hitting the pike.

Tomorrow and Sunday play will start at 3 o'clock, ragtime.

George Mogridge is being given a complete week's rest before entering the box again.

Zeb Milan entered the limelight as a pinch-hitter for Phillips in the seventh inning. He filed to Witt.

Those man-eating Tygers continue their destructive ways. They fell on three of Trix Speaker's choice hurlers for enough hits to net a 7-3 victory.

The Phillies went further into the cellar by dropping two to the Dodgers in the hit-fest that disclosed five home runs.

The athletes are hard-worked these late May days. After battling to a 2-2 tie in eight innings, rain stopped the Reds-Cubs contest. The boys will double their next performance to make up for it.

Five pitchers failed to stop the Cardinals' losing streak. The Pirates hit 'em freely and sent the Cards' record of straight defeats to five.

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## SCHOOL RELAY TEAMS TO RUN FOR G. W. CUP

Big Field and Track Meet Starts Tomorrow in Central High Stadium at 2 o'clock.

High school relay teams will compete in the finale of the annual field and track games tomorrow in the Central High School stadium for the George Washington University relay cup.

In order to stimulate interest in relay racing and to feature the event, a silver cup has been put up for competition by George Washington.

The cup will become the permanent possession of the school winning it five times, not necessarily in succession.

The faculty athletic advisers will

be presented with the relay cup tomorrow at noon and it will be awarded to the winning team at the track meet.

Central is expected to be a winner in tomorrow's meet in which all five schools are entered. The meet will start at 2 p. m. and will be concluded when the fourteen events terminate with the relay race.

Faculty athletic advisers report all details arranged.

## WASHINGTON CANOE MEN TO HOLD SWIMMING MEET

The opening swimming meet under the auspices of the Washington Canoe Club will be held Saturday afternoon, June 2, at the Washington Canoe Club, just above the Aqueduct Bridge.

Nine events will be held for men and five events for women. Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded the winners in the different classes.

Entries for the affair will close Saturday, June 3, with Reginald Rutherford, care of the Union Trust Company, Fifteenth and H streets northwest.

C. U. Is Beaten.

Catholic University players dropped a 12 to 6 game to Lafayette College at Easton, Pa., yesterday.

## REDS REFUSE \$150,000 FOR TWO PLAYERS

McGraw Makes Offer for Contracts of Outfielder Rouse and Pitcher Donohue.

CINCINNATI, May 27.—Manager John J. McGraw, of the New York Giants, today announced that his club was willing and ready to pay \$150,000 for the contracts of Eddie Rousch, outfielder, and Pete Donohue, pitcher, of the Cincinnati Reds. President August Hermann, of the Reds, said Donohue was rapidly developing into one of the great stars of the mound and that he would not be traded or sold to any other club under any circumstances.

As to Rousch, Hermann said that the Cincinnati club could not deal with or for Rousch, while the latter remained a hold-out.

## Big League Stars Who Are Leading Their Team Mates

(Copyright, 1922, by Cosmopolitan News Service.)

Player-Club	G.	A.	B.	R.	H.	P.
Sisler, Browns	35	148	39	65	439	
Miller, Athletics	32	127	29	51	402	
Speaker, Indians	35	134	26	53	396	
Cobb, Tigers	27	102	16	40	392	
Goody, Braves	19	59	5	23	390	

Player-Club	Hits
Williams, Browns	12
Hornby, Cardinals	10
Miller, Athletics	10
Baker, Yankees	7
Heilmann, Tigers	7
Walker, Athletics	7
Ainsmith, Cardinals	7

Player-Club	Runs
Sisler, Browns	39
Hornby, Cardinals	35
Blue, Tigers	31
Maranville, Pirates	31
Carey, Pirates	30

Player-Club	S.B.
Sisler, Browns	19
Williams, Browns	14
Carey, Pirates	10
Johnson, White Sox	10
Bigbee, Pirates	6
Rice, Senators	6

Pitchers-Club	Won	Lost	Pct.
Couch, Reds	5	0	1.000
Bush, Yankees	4	0	1.000
Stoner, Tigers	3	0	1.000
Reuther, Dodgers	7	1	.875
Doughan, Giants	6	1	.857

Player-Team	G.	A.	B.	H.	P.
Sisler, St. Louis	35	148	39	65	439
Miller, Phila.	32	127	29	51	402
Speaker, Cleveland	35	134	26	53	396
Cobb, Detroit	27	102	16	40	392
O'Neill, Cleveland	29	85	23	38	388

Player-Team	G.	A.	B.	H.	P.
Goody, Boston	19	59	23	390	
Toporcer, St. L.	30	98	38	388	
T. Griffith, Brook	25	95	36	379	
Hornby, St. L.	35	135	51	378	
Bigbee, Pittsburgh	32	121	49	374	

Player-Team	Yes	Season's
Meusel, New York	2	3
Rice, Washington	1	2
Judge, Washington	1	5
Heilmann, Detroit	1	7

Player-Team	Yes	Season's
High, Brooklyn	1	3
Myers, Brooklyn	1	1
De Berry, Brooklyn	1	1
Johnson, Brooklyn	1	1
Wheat, Brooklyn	1	5
Peters, Philadelphia	1	1
Leslie, Philadelphia	1	1
Hornby, St. Louis	1	10
Ainsmith, St. Louis	1	7

League totals—American League, 133; National League, 92.

## ORIOLES AGAIN IN FRONT OF INTERNATIONAL RACE

Baltimore has rushed out in front again in the International League race. Unless something unforeseen occurs the Orioles will remain there until the curtain is dropped in the fall. Dunn's athletes, who had been a trifle unsteady during the erratic weather of this spring, seem to have settled down at last in their stride.

No doubt this is about the worst thing that could happen to the league as the clubs in the northern end of the circuit were drawing very well when it appeared that three of them—Toronto, Rochester and Buffalo—had a chance to make a respectable showing against Baltimore.

Syracuse is the only Northern club in the second division, and that team is near enough to Jersey City to displace that club soon as head of the lower section.

There is considerable speculation going on in Syracuse as to what will happen to the club now that the Cardinals have purchased the Fort Smith club as a farm for the young St. Louis players, as Syracuse has held that position in the past.

Branch Rickey is one of the smart men of baseball, and is, no doubt, farsighted enough to realize that unless he has some place to develop youngsters, he will have to go out in the open market among the Class AA clubs and pay extravagant prices for young players, a system much more costly than maintaining decent minor league clubs.

No announcement has been made about the Cardinals' future attitude toward Syracuse, but it is supposed eventually Rickey and his associates will relinquish their connections in the Salt City.

After the first month of play the weakness of the teams have begun to show. At Reading Chief Bender is pitching fine ball for his team, and, as manager, has asked for new players to replace those who have been sick, disabled or failed to make good. The owners have responded promptly.

Pitcher Hamilton of Moline in the Three-I League, Dick Niehaus, a twister from Sacramento, and Schacht, formerly a star pitcher in the International before he went to Washington; Bill Barrett, formerly of the Athletics, both a short-stop and pitcher, and First Baseman Floyd Herman from the Tigers have been signed. The acquisition of these men ought to aid Reading in getting out of next to last position, just ahead of Newark.

Bill Clymer is having his own troubles in Newark. His principal weakness is pitching, and when he gets good pitching he is forced to face better twirling from his opponents as a rule.

The good crowds that at first went to Harrison Field to witness the games have dwindled and, unless there is a decided brace, there will be a substantial financial loss there this season. Certain semi-pro clubs in that city have been drawing just as well as the Bears, and Pete Krumenaker, a very good hitter who was released to Bridgeport by Newark, has signed with one of the sandlot teams and is hitting the ball so hard he is quite a favorite.

## SCOTCH COLFERS WILL PAY HUTCHISON'S EXPENSES

CHICAGO, May 26.—That Jack Hutchison, Glen View professional, is on his way today to Great Britain to defend his title as British open golf champion is due to the sportsmanship of members of the Alexandra Club of Glasgow, who guaranteed expenses to the American to have him make the trip and try a second time to carry the crown back to America.

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